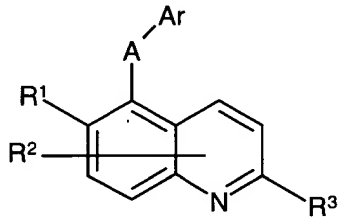
Appendix A
Current clean copy of pending claims

1 (Amended herein). A compound selected from the group of compounds represented by Formula I:



wherein:

A is a $-CH_2-$, CH(OH), -C(O)-, $-C=NOR^4-$, $-NR^5-$, -O-, -S-, -S(O)-, or $-S(O)_2-$,where R^4 is hydrogen or alkyl and R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl, or acyl;

Ar is an optionally-substituted phenyl;

R^1 is cycloalkyl, haloalkyloxy, hydroxyalkyloxy, alkoxyalkyloxy, hydroxy, halo, cyano, or-OSO_2R^{11}, where R^{11} is selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, and haloalkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, halo, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, alkylsulfanyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, nitro, cyano, or $-NR^9R^{10}$ where R^9 and R^{10} are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, and acyl; and R^2 represents substitution at any one of carbons C3, C4, C7 or C8;

R^3 is $-SR^{12}$, $-SOR^{12}$, $-SO_2R^{12}$, or $-SO_2NR^{13}R^{14}$ wherein,

R^{12} is alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, mono or dialkylaminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, or alkoxycarbonylalkyl;

R^{13} is hydrogen or alkyl, and

R^{14} is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aminoalkyl, aryl, or aralkyl; and

prodrugs, individual isomers, mixtures of isomers, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2 (original). A compound of Claim 2 wherein A is –S-.

3 (previously amended). A compound of Claim 2 wherein

R^1 is alkoxy, hydroxy , halogen or cyano;

R^2 is hydrogen or methyl; and

R^3 is $S(O)_{0-2}R^{12}$ where R^{12} is alkyl.

9. (original). A compound of Claim 3 wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl.

10. (original) A compound of Claim 3 wherein Ar is 4-substituted phenyl or 2-substituted phenyl.

11. (original) A compound of Claim 3 wherein Ar is a disubstituted phenyl.

12. (original) A compound of Claim 3 wherein Ar is optionally substituted at one or more positions with a substitutent or substituents independently selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, ethoxy, and methoxy.

13. (original) A compound of Claim 1 wherein A is –C(O)-.

9 (previously amended). A compound of Claim 8 wherein

R^1 is alkoxy, hydroxy , halogen or cyano;

R^2 is hydrogen or methyl; and

R^3 is $S(O)_{0-2}R^{12}$ where R^{12} is alkyl.

11. (original) A compound of Claim 9 wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl.

11. (previously amended) A compound of Claim 9 wherein Ar is 4-substituted phenyl, 2-substituted phenyl, or disubstituted phenyl.

16. (original) A compound of Claim 9 wherein Ar is optionally substituted at one or more positions with a substitutent or substituents independently selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, ethoxy, and methoxy.

17. (original) A compound of Claim 1 wherein A is $-CH_2-$.

18. (previously amended). A compound of Claim 14 wherein

R^1 is alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or cyano;

R^2 is hydrogen or methyl; and

R^3 is $S(O)_{0-2}R^{12}$ where R^{12} is alkyl.

17. (original) A compound of Claim 15 wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl.

17. (previously amended). A compound of Claim 15 wherein Ar is 4-substituted phenyl, 2-substituted phenyl, or disubstituted phenyl.

21. (original) A compound of Claim 15 wherein Ar is optionally substituted at one or more positions with a substitutent or substituents independently selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, ethoxy, and methoxy.

22. (original) A compound of Claim 1 wherein A is –O-.

22 (previously amended). A compound of Claim 20 wherein

R^1 is alkoxy, hydroxy, halogen or cyano;

R^2 is hydrogen or methyl; and

R^3 is $S(O)_{0-2}R^{12}$ where R^{12} is alkyl.

33. (original) A compound of Claim 21 wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl.

34. (original) A compound of Claim 21 wherein Ar is 4-substituted phenyl or 2-substituted phenyl.

35. (original) A compound of Claim 21 wherein Ar is a disubstituted phenyl.

36. (original) A compound of Claim 21 wherein Ar is optionally substituted at one or more positions with a substitutent or substituents independently selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro, bromo, ethoxy, and methoxy.

37. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

38. (amended herein) A method of treatment of an inflammatory disease, cancer, or pain in a mammal treatable by administration of a selective COX II inhibitor comprising administration to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

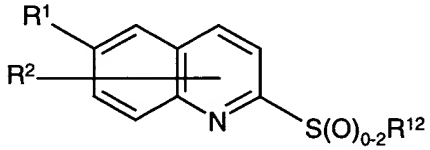
39. (amended herein) The method of Claim 27, wherein the disease is pain and/or an inflammatory disease selected from myositis, synovitis, arthritis (rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis), gout, back pain, dental pain, pain and inflammation associated with sports injuries, sprains, strains, headache, tendonitis, ankylosing spondylitis, and bursitis.

40. (amended herein) ~~The method of Claim 27,~~ A method of treatment of a disease in a mammal comprising administration to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1, wherein the disease is dysmenorrhoea or premature labor.

41. (amended herein). A method of treatment of a disease in a mammal comprising administration to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1, wherein the disease is Alzheimer's disease.

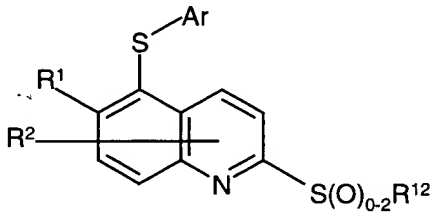
42. (amended herein). A process for preparing a compound selected from the group of compounds of Claim 1, which comprises

reacting a compound of general Formula



wherein R^1, R^2, and R^{12} are as defined in Claim 1,

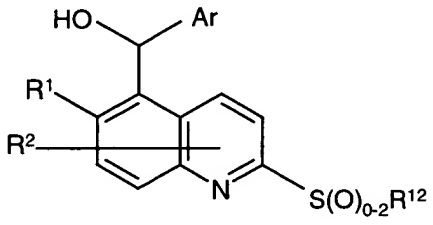
with a compound of general formula ArSH, to provide a compound of Formula I:



wherein Ar, R^1, R^2, and R^{12} are as defined in Claim 1.

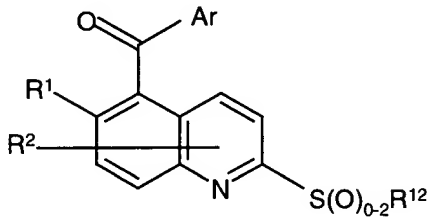
43. (original) A process for preparing a compound selected from the group of compounds of Claim 1, which comprises

reacting a compound of general Formula



wherein R^1, R^2, and R^{12}, are as defined in Claim 1,

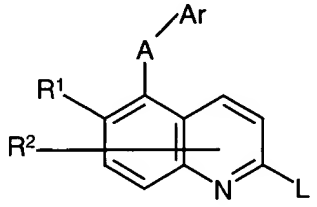
with an oxidizing agent to provide a compound of Formula I:



wherein Ar, R^1, R^2, and R^{12} are as defined in Claim 1.

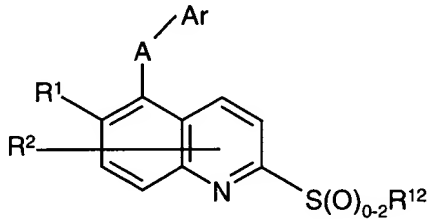
35. (amended herein). A process for preparing a compound selected from the group of compounds of Claim 1, which comprises

reacting a compound of general formula



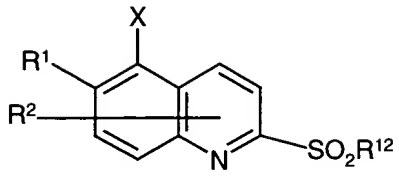
wherein A is $-NR^5$ or -O, and L is a leaving group such as a halogen group as defined in the specification,

with a compound of general formula $NaSR^{12}$, followed by optional oxidation to provide a compound of Formula I:



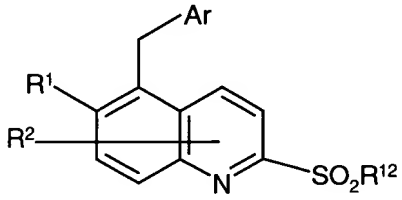
36. (amended herein) A process for preparing a compound selected from the group of compounds of Claim 1, which comprises

reacting a compound of general formula

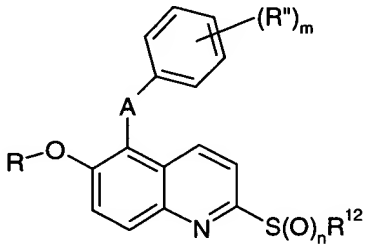


wherein X is a halogen,

with an aralkyl anion compound to provide a compound of Formula I:



35 (previously added) A compound having the formula:



wherein:

A is a $-CH_2-$, -C(O)-, -O-, or -S-;

R is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, or SO_2R^{11} where R^{11} is selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, and haloalkyl;

R^{12} is alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, aminoalkyl, mono or dialkylaminoalkyl, carboxyalkyl, or alkoxycarbonylalkyl;

R" is at each occurrence independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, alkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, acylamino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, and heteroalkyl;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; and

n is 1, 2 or 3; and

prodrugs, individual isomers, mixtures of isomers, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

36 (previously added). A compound according to claim 35, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or prodrug thereof, in which:

A is S;

R is CH_3;

R" is at each occurrence independently selected from halo, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy; and

m is 0, 1, or 2.